

DOMESTIC MISSIONS

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church.

SEPTEMBER, 1854.

Redeeming the First-born Son.

At the farewell Missionary Meeting, for Bishop Scott, in the Church of the Ascension, New-York, on the 19th of February last, the above idea was thrown out by the Secretary, and the following record of it is in the SPIRIT OF MISSIONS for March, page 76 :—" He also dwelt on the great need of men, made an appeal to Christian parents, especially to pious mothers, to consecrate at least one son, as Samuel was devoted by his mother, for the work and office of the ministry, and called on others to redeem their first-born, by sending a Missionary in their stead."

This idea, thus suggested, has been often and variously heard from, and seems to have been favorably received and seriously pondered by Christian parents and Christian ministers. We heard not long since, from one of the most devoted and able of our clergy, that he had determined to press home the thought upon his people, in a sermon, and that he had resolved to devote his infant and *only* son to the work of the ministry. Whether or not the following interesting incident had its rise from the same source, we are not informed, but we cannot be too thankful for any good already done, by suggesting the privilege and duty; and we cannot too earnestly commend the following example to the serious attention, earnest prayers, and faithful following of all Christian parents, as they desire the blessing of God upon their offspring, and as they would pray for the increase of faithful and successful laborers in the harvest of our common Master and Lord.

FROM THE BANNER OF THE CROSS.

REDEEMING A SON.

A clergyman of this city related to us this week a very interesting incident. One of his parishioners has a pious son, who had manifested an inclination for the ministry. The father being satisfied, after mature reflection, that his son was not adapted to it, determined to redeem him, and accordingly deposited in his rector's hands (our informant) the sum of \$900, for the support and education for three years of any three young men whom he might choose, as likely to exercise the ministry to the glory of God and the edification of the Church. The alarmingly deficient clerical ranks would soon be filled, if all who have been blessed with children and wealth felt something of this Christian father's obligation to Him who has "redeemed" them, "not with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot."

Oregon.

Portland—Rt. Rev. Bishop Scott.

EVERYTHING from Bishop Scott is looked for with so much interest, that we give the following letter, as an earnest and pledge of something more full and detailed at an early period. Would that we were able to respond favorably to the Bishop's affecting appeal for helpers in his large and important field. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He may send forth laborers into His harvest."

"REV. AND DEAR BROTHER :—

"It was my intention at this time to make a somewhat formal report to the Domestic Committee. But I shall defer it a few weeks longer, for two reasons: First, on Saturday last, we held a Convention of our clergy and laity, during which I read a brief address touching upon my movements thus far, and upon the general aspects of our Mission. The proceedings are to be published, including the Address, and I desire to forward you a copy in connection with my report. Second, in a day or two, I start upon a visit to the Umpqua Valley and some intermediate points; and if spared to return, some three weeks hence, I shall be able to give a much fuller account of our condition and prospects. This will still bring my report in ample time for the annual meeting of the Board in October.

"I returned a few days since from a visit to Washington Territory, having gone as far as Puget's Sound. If spared to make my

tour to the Umpqua, I shall then have traversed nearly the length of my jurisdiction. I am conscious this journeying will have been to little purpose, except gaining some little knowledge of the actual state of the country. This, however, is indispensable to a judicious arrangement of plans hereafter.

"We are looking every moment for the steamer, and I do earnestly hope we shall receive assurances of some addition to our Missionary force. Without it, we work to so little purpose, I trust the Lord of the harvest will send us speedily some more laborers."

First Church in Kansas.

Fort Leavenworth—Rev. W. N. Irish.

"LAST week a visit was made to Fort Leavenworth, when Articles of Association were signed by many of the residents there, and a Parish organized, which we named 'Centurion Church.'

"This is the first religious Society formed in the new Territory of Kansas, and when we remember that this place is in direct communication with the best portions of land open for settlement, we think this step of organizing a Parish at this early date an important one.

"The Government has reserved a portion of land, including that upon which Fort Leavenworth is situated, but it will soon be ceded to the Territory, when a large town will necessarily spring up there. Merchants are now ready to build large and commodious storehouses, and enter extensively into commercial business at this point as soon as they can gain permission to do so.

"Your Missionary will endeavor to watch the course of emigration closely; and not only at Fort Leavenworth, but at other points in Nebraska, he intends, by the grace of God, to plant the Church a little in advance of the denominations. The Territory of Kansas being on the western side of the Missouri River and the ferries at St. Joseph and Weston excellent for crossing at any stage of water, he can readily visit settlements there in

the way of recreation, and thus be absent from his station proper, but very little.

“It afforded me the greatest pleasure to organize ‘Centurion Church’ as the first Parish in this new and remarkably fertile country; and if this little communication can be made serviceable in any way, as giving you an item of Missionary intelligence, use it as you see best; it is at your disposal.

[The Domestic Committee have it in contemplation to establish a Mission forthwith at Fort Leavenworth and parts adjacent. It is well to forestall and anticipate the emigration, and have the Church ready to receive with open arms her scattered and wandering children.—ED. S. M.]

Ojibway Indians—A Box of Clothing.

WE have had kindly sent us the following acknowledgment of a box of clothing sent for the Ojibway Indians, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Breck. We insert it, as well for the interesting information it gives, as also to serve as a stimulus to others to do what they can in this way for the Oneida Mission at Duck Creek and other departments of our Domestic Missions. We are precluded from any mention of the place or persons who have been thus kind, “as they wish not their left hand to know what their right hand has done.”

“I have now the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the box of clothing. I beg you to express to the Society the truly sincere thanks of the Chippeway Mission for the very signal benefit conferred upon it by the ladies of so distant a Parish. Were you near us, and felt, so to speak, our necessities, then other considerations might prompt your liberality; but when this, from the distance you live, could not be, then we gladly turn to the only motive of action, and which is the highest of all motives, the love of souls in the spread of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And it is in this point of view that we rejoice in confessing you to be fellow-laborers and Missionaries along with us in our work of Pagan conversion. And we hope you will, as a Society for the promotion of Missions, take this light in which to regard yourselves, for I am sure it is the

only true one, and its realization will bring home to you more effectually than in any other mode your true position, and, as a consequence, lead you to work accordingly. . . .

“Every article in this box has proved highly serviceable, and could the ladies behold the young girls in the school-room preparing their own dresses under the admirable supervision of Miss Mills, their teacher, and then see them washing and ironing them, in order to appear in clean apparel for Sundays, they would think this step a great advance upon the Pagan habits of half nakedness and *filth in the extreme* of eighteen months since. The women are well disposed to adopt the white dress, and to wear shawls instead of the blanket. Our little Church is a treasure indeed. It looks Christian-like as it stands in the midst of the wigwams, and specially when these poor creatures go up to it for daily prayer at the close of each day's labor. Their attendance continues, and their behavior in the Church is almost unexceptionably good. They have been very industrious this year, and their crops promise an abundant harvest, which will be very encouraging for them to use still greater exertions for another year. The improvement of these people in gentleness and willingness to learn is very marked, and we hope ere two more years have passed away to find them Christianized as well as civilized. . . .

“We shall soon have ten clergymen in Minnesota. Bishop Kemper has recently been with us and laid the corner-stone for another Church, making the fifth now laid in our young Territory, and there is a reasonable expectation of two more being soon in readiness to be laid. Besides these, we have the stated services of the Church in the two Garrison Chapels at Forts Snelling and Ripley. We are now sending the third divinity student to Nashotah, whilst several others remain in Minnesota, in different degrees of preparation. Two of them are members of our own Ojibway family. One of them is an Ottawa Indian, who has come to us from a distance of a thousand miles to prepare for the Ministry, whilst the other was the first youth that stepped forward to aid us in pitching our *canvas tent* when first coming amongst the Indians. Upon Sunday next he is to be baptized, with some others. . . .”

"Cast thy Bread upon the Waters."

THE following note from a "Friend to Missions," gratefully acknowledged by Bishop Kemper, is a case in point. It is thus "the Lord stirs up the hearts of His faithful people, to bring forth plenteously the fruit of good works;" and it is thus that Missionary information and incidents of interest draw out a glad return of gratitude and love from faithful hearts, which only wait to know where and how they may do good, to embrace readily and cheerfully the opportunity. May such instances of ready, large-hearted and unostentatious liberality multiply and abound more and more! May the reading of this simple record "provoke many others to love and good works!" Recording angels will rejoice to write down the loving, precious issues of such faith, which, caring not to be known on earth, prefers the smile of "Him who seeth in secret," and goes on its quiet way, rejoicing that its "work is with the Lord," and "its record is on high:"—

BISHOP KEMPER'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

"Bishop Kemper begs leave to return his grateful thanks to the author of the following note, which was received but a few days since. The 100 dollars will be appropriated to the Church at Shakapee; but, as the Church at St. Anthony is finished, paid for, and ready for consecration—which it is hoped will take place next October—the other \$100, at the request of the Rev. J. S. Chamberlain, will be applied towards the erection of the Church at Lake Minnetoukah, unless the generous donor should object.

"DELAFIELD, WISCONSIN, *August 4, 1854.*"

NOTE FROM A "FRIEND TO MISSIONS."

"NEW-YORK, *June 8, 1854.*

"RT. REV. AND DEAR SIR :

"After reading in the June number of the SPIRIT OF MISSIONS the report of the Rev. J. S. Chamberlain, of St. Anthony's Falls, and that of the Rev. E. A. Greenleaf, Shakapee, I felt an earnest desire to add my mite towards the erection of a church edifice

at each of those Missionary Stations. Please to apply the inclosed \$200 to that purpose, dividing it equally. And that the Lord will bless the labors of the faithful Missionaries will be the prayer of the donor,

A FRIEND TO MISSIONS."

The Harvest is Plenteous—The Field still Widens and Grows.

THE following account of Endaian and Superior will be read with interest. Thus, as we climb the steep of Missionary interest and effort, "Alps upon Alps arise." New openings and new fields call for renewed, enlarged and multiplied zeal and liberality. Never "can we count anything as done, while so much remains to be done;" nor have any heart or room for resting or boasting, while our labors and offerings fall so far short either of our ability or opportunity:

"ENDAIAN.—We learn from Mr. W. R. Williams, who returned on the 14th inst. from Lake Superior, that this place is building up with great rapidity. He informs us that there are already twenty-five houses built, and fifty more in process of construction. The general health of the settlers is excellent, and the town has every appearance of prosperity in the highest degree. He also informs us that a number of specimens of copper have been found in that vicinity, of superior quality. Endaian is the name selected for this commencement of a future city.

"Superior City is also rapidly building up, and has the same indications of rapid progress as the town of Endaian. Claims are advancing in value very fast, and prospects are that settlers will receive a full compensation for the privations they have undergone in making their claims."—*Minnesota Pioneer*.

"SUPERIOR, DOUGLAS CO., WISCONSIN.—A lady who has gone up to the new settlement at the head of Lake Superior to live, writes to the *Minnesotian* an interesting description of the new city called 'Superior,' laid out on the Wisconsin side of the St. Louis Bay, just above Left Hand River. She describes the location as beautiful. We copy a portion of her letter:

" 'The land rises gradually from the water's edge to a height which commands a view of the entrance of the bay, and all the lovely scenery of

its shores. On the opposite side, which belongs to Minnesota, a long, narrow peninsula, low and sandy, extends far into the water. The trees have been mostly cleared away, so that between them we have glimpses of the open lake beyond; and above their tops, we catch our first view of the smoke-wreaths which herald the arrival of steamboats at our wilderness home. On the extreme point of this peninsula are a dock and warehouse and a few log buildings, besides the many bark-covered wigwams of the aborigines.

"The bay is seven miles in length, and averages a mile in breadth. It proves the best harbor on Lake Superior, besides being the pleasantest spot for boat-riders which we have ever met. At the *head* of the bay, just where it should be, is the *mouth* of the St. Louis River. Here, on either side, the hills are very high, and covered to their summits with forest trees. This is the Mineral Range. That on the north side belongs to Minnesota, and has been explored. All who know of its wealth have been waiting impatiently for the treaty which is to cede these lands to the United States, as they are supposed to contain the richest mines along the shores of Lake Superior. On the Wisconsin side of the river and bay, pre-emptions are constantly being made; the mineral resources will soon be developed.

* * * * *

"We are making great efforts to train the rising town 'in the way it should go,' so that 'when it is old it shall not depart from it.' Mr. Newton, the agent of the proprietors, refuses to sell lots to men who will keep grogeries. He has also given a tract, besides pledging himself to contribute liberally to support the stated preaching of the Gospel; and efforts are being made to procure a resident ministrant of holy writ. The inhabitants of Superior are more moral and orderly than are usually found in such a settlement in the wilderness.

"In laying out the town, one lot to every eight blocks has been reserved for schools, and twenty lots have also been reserved for churches. The proprietors have also donated three parks—two of five acres in extent, and one of ten—a court-house square of four acres—a seminary square of three acres, and a cemetery of fifteen acres. The streets are eighty feet in width, and the avenues one hundred, with alleys between each tier of lots sixteen feet in width.

"We confidently predict that, in a very few years, Superior will become a city which will be no discredit to the great Northwest."

Delaware.

Seaford—Rev. R. F. Cadle.

"I HAVE not been able to sustain these useful institutions of the Church (the Sunday schools) in the congregations under my charge during the winter, but I hope in the month of May to renew them, or to substitute catechetical classes in their stead; as I am strongly impressed with the belief that no church can grow and flourish which does not seek to carry into effect the injunction of Christ, with respect to the feeding of his lambs.

"There is but little that is encouraging in the spiritual condi-

tion of the parishes which I am serving, but I must trust that the seeds of truth which are sown in them will not utterly perish, but will in due time spring up and bear fruit to the glory of God; even as 'the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.'

"Since the 6th of November last I have not officiated in Christ Church, Broad Creek, which is not prepared for winter services; but I expect to occupy that venerable house of God again in the month of May next, if my connection with these congregations should be continued another year.

"It has been a matter of regret to me that Christ Church, Broad Creek, should not be repaired and put into a decent condition for the holding of public worship. This edifice is said to have been built in ante-revolutionary times: it is capable of holding 600 persons: its frame, and clap-boarding, and roof are sound; and the expense of restoring the parts decayed or broken would not be large. The hangings of the pulpit have wasted away; one of the porches has disappeared; much of the glass in the windows has been destroyed; and there is a general air about this sanctuary of God of the neglect preceding an abandonment to ruin and desolation. As the attendance is not large, it might not be wise to expend a large sum on its repairs; but both the church and the burying-ground attached to it claim some degree of care, and ought, if possible, to be put into a state more befitting the sacred objects for which they have been set apart than that which they now present. It was for a time a station of the late Bishop Stone, of Maryland, and various clergymen of the Church have ministered in it since the beginning of the present century. It is earnestly to be wished that the object of so much nursing care may yet be a joy of many generations."

Mississippi.

Holmes Co.—Rev. B. Halstead.

"NEARLY three years since, the first movement was made towards establishing the Church in this county, by organizing a parish, during an Episcopal visitation, by the name of Calvary

Church. This parish embraced, besides several individuals, four Church families, originally from Virginia, one of whom had been residing here for fifteen years, entirely cut off from all the privileges of the Church, though still cherishing the hope that in God's good time her divinely appointed ministrations would be extended to this region.

"Last year the erection of a small Church edifice was commenced, at the suggestion of the Bishop, but in consequence of a destructive fire at Tchula, on the Yazoo River, consuming two large cotton sheds, containing nearly the whole of last year's crop, the congregation have not now the means of finishing it. The parsonage, however, begun immediately on the arrival of the Missionary, we hope to have completed in a few weeks.

"My first service here was on Christmas Day, when we celebrated the Nativity of our Blessed Lord in a private parlor; about twenty persons attending. For some weeks after this, our place of worship was a school-house. Since our occupation of the Church, on the weather becoming warmer, our congregations have considerably increased, nearly every family in the neighborhood attending, there being no other place of worship within ten miles. The parish now numbers twelve communicants.

"At Lexington, the county seat, I officiate on the first Sunday of each month, both morning and evening, and on the third Sunday in the evening, after morning service at the Church in the country. At this place there is but one communicant of the Church, though there are quite a number of persons favorably disposed towards it, and desirous of its permanent establishment in the town. Our congregations have thus far generally been large and attentive, and the responses are well sustained.

"In the neighboring counties I hear of scattered families of Church people, some of whom I have been earnestly solicited to visit, which I shall do as soon and as often as I can until they can be better attended to."

Pontotoc—Rev. Thomas B. Lawson.

"Two years ago last January I came to Pontotoc. There was then here one communicant, a lady, and the skeleton of an old vestry which had been formed several years past by Bishop Free-

man, who was then Rector of the parish at Columbus, in this State. To support my family, I taught school and preached twice a month in a meeting-house built by the Cumberland Presbyterians. The Church had, through the influence of the Rev. Dr. Hawks, obtained the use of this building twice a month, by helping to finish it. The Cumberlands have nearly all died out, and we now use it *ad libitum*. For the first year I preached alone at this place, as the labor of the school-room prevented me from going abroad. At the close of this year my school and parish had both grown—the latter then numbered ten communicants; of these two were added. The next year I took, in addition to my school and parish, the charge of the Church at Okolona, a village twenty-five miles south-east of Pontotoc. Between these two places and the school I divided my time to the best advantage possible; but the school subjected me to severe labor, as I had to ride twenty-five miles home after preaching two sermons in Okolona. This parish had added, by confirmation, three, and Pontotoc eight, during the year. But the labor imposed upon me was more than I could endure; I was compelled to give up teaching or preaching, so I left the school-room, and am now preaching only.

“A few Church people at Oxford, a county town forty miles west of Pontotoc, raised the Macedonian cry, and I went to their relief. So I have now three parishes under my care, the two farthest seventy miles apart. I also preach at several places by the way-side. I travel over three counties, and have no clergyman nearer than fifty miles.

“You have now a general view of my field, and of the labor required to cultivate it. I will now give you an account of things at Pontotoc, and hereafter of my other two parishes.

“Pontotoc is the place where the General Government located the land office, for selling the land purchased from the Chickasaw Indians. It was, therefore, rapidly built up. Men and money came from all parts of our country. The population was wealthy and intelligent, but the society fluctuating. The land sales in a few years were comparatively small; speculators left, and the town soon wore the aspect of decay. Situated far in the interior, and difficult of access, it has for years been in *statu quo*. Being a very healthy place, however, the Baptists and Old

School Presbyterians have each established female schools here, which are both liberally patronized. The Methodists are the most numerous. These three denominations make up the mass of religious people in this section of country. The general character of the people is upright and intelligent ; they are not wealthy, but well to live, kind and hospitable ; but exceedingly ill informed as to the Church, and prejudiced in proportion to their ignorance of her claims and doctrines. Notwithstanding, however, all ignorance and bigotry, the Church has made good progress. Within the two years I have baptized thirty persons, and the Bishop has confirmed fifteen, and there are several more who will attach themselves to the Church, when our good Bishop next visits Pontotoc."

Tennessee.

Franklin—Rev. M. S. Royce.

"THIS parish is one of peculiar interest, as full of encouragement as of difficulty. It was the scene of Bishop Otey's first labors in the ministry, his residence for some time before he was admitted to Holy Orders, and for nearly two years after he was consecrated Bishop. At that time there were sixty or seventy communicants ; but after Bishop Otey's removal there seemed to be a fatality attending the Church, for within four or five years nearly all the communicants either removed or died. The business of the town began to decline about that time, and has continued to decline until very lately, which was the main cause of so many removals. The parish is still very weak, counting by *numbers*, but *strong* in *faith*. It is interesting and encouraging to observe how firm is the root, and how abundant the fruit of the good seed sown here by faithful laborers in times past ; while it is discouraging to find that the very weakness of the Church has strengthened the prejudices of many who look upon the 'outward appearance.' Since I commenced services here (Jan. 1st), the Bishop has visited us and confirmed *seven* persons ; a subscription of more than \$200 has been raised to repair the Church, and there is every prospect that in a few years, by patient continuance in well-doing, and by God's blessing, we shall be strong in numbers."

Kentucky.

Versailles—Rev. J. W. Venable.

“AGREEABLY to the request made by the Secretary of the Board of Missions, that all matters of historical interest connected with the organization of parishes, or of the success of Missionary efforts in general, should be communicated to the Board, I take the liberty of sending you the following narrative of the establishment of the Church in Versailles, Woodford county, Kentucky :

“The first clergyman of the Church who officiated in this place was the Rev. Amos Cleaver, who fell at his post in Jackson, Miss., during the past year, a victim to the pestilence. He emigrated to Kentucky about twenty-two years since, and by advice of the Bishop of the Diocese reconnoitered this ground with a view of making it a Missionary station. At that period, however, the prospect of ultimate success was so discouraging that it was virtually abandoned, and Paris chosen instead. The Bishop of the Diocese repeatedly visited Versailles and its neighborhood, during his residence in Lexington, in order to give encouragement to a few Episcopalians, who, from an early day, had been warmly attached to the Church, and some of whom occasionally attended the Church in Lexington on the great festivals of the Church, and from time to time saw favorable openings for the labors of a Missionary, could one have been obtained—but in the great want of clergymen, none could be had. Several years passed away without any further decided efforts to establish the Church here, but at length the Rev. E. F. Berkeley of Lexington, and the Rev. J. N. Norton of Frankfort, began to hold occasional services in the court-house. The Rev. J. N. Norton, about six years since, organized a parish here, and instituted a regular monthly service, which was continued until the Rev. Mr. Laird removed to Versailles, opened a school, and took charge of the infant parish, I think, as Missionary of the Domestic Board. He remained here two years, during which time the foundation of a church edifice was laid, and the walls of the building reared. After his removal, the Rev. Mr. Norton again resumed monthly services. Having associated myself

with him as the Assistant Minister of Ascension Church, Frankfort, I made occasional visits to this point as his substitute, and about two years since assumed the ministerial charge, in addition to my duties in Frankfort and elsewhere. The enterprise has resulted in establishing the Church firmly, as we think, in the midst of a rural population. A very neat Gothic church, capable of seating 250 persons, tastefully fitted up with all the means and appliances for the proper worship of Almighty God, according to the rites and usages of the Church, has been completed. A sweet-toned organ, costing \$600, has been presented by an invalid female friend, who is not a communicant of the Church, but an ardent friend of it, having been educated by the Bishop of New-Jersey, and received baptism at his hands. The church was consecrated by the name of "St. John's Church," on the 10th inst., (May,) by the Rt. Rev. B. B. Smith, and the rite of confirmation administered for the first time in this community to three persons. Others would have presented themselves for confirmation, had the weather not prevented them from coming to town. At the solicitation of the Vestry, I now make application to the Domestic Board for assistance for a few years, believing that the parish will, at no distant period, become self-supporting."

*Illinois.**Pittsfield—Rev. I. T. Worthington.*

"THE Missionary at this station is unable in his first report to make any encouraging show of service, or of its results, for the following reasons :—

"This immediate parish is small in number and feeble in pecuniary resources, and the whole number of those who contribute for the Church is still smaller. This county (Pike) is large, and rapidly increasing in wealth. The Church has many children scattered about, often distant from each other, and many of them quite remote from Pittsfield. Hence, most of them never attend the services at this place, and there is no available way of obtaining from them contributions for purposes foreign

to this county ; and from some we receive no contribution at all.

“ From the fact of the great temporal prosperity of this county, it ought to be expected that the Church revenues would also increase, but, unhappily, the reverse is the fact. Increased facilities of getting wealth too often stimulate only an increased desire to accumulate it.

“ The congregational attendance in Pittsfield is small, because in a village of about one thousand souls there are five places of regular Sabbath services, and ours is one of the smallest. At the country stations I have larger congregations, and I believe more hopeful prospects.

“ The Missionary’s service in this county is peculiarly itinerant. His work is to travel over the county—to preach at the fire-side—to catechize the young people—to baptize the children, and to preach wherever he can assemble the people in their school-houses ; and while this is the case, he must spend half of his time in laboring with his hands for his daily family supplies.

“ If he were so provided for that his temporal necessities would not conflict with his professional duties, a better state of things might be speedily hoped for.

“ To do justice to the Church in this county now, requires the diligent labor of two persons. What, then, can one man do, who, having a family to support and travelling expenses to meet, out of a salary not now amounting to \$350 a year, is forced to give so much of his attention to his domestic affairs ?

“ In this way my time has been spent since last spring, though subject to such hindrance in family visiting as the winter in this country always occasions.

“ My country stations have had monthly visits : one of them in a dark and cold school-house, where I was forced to discontinue my visits in January, hoping, however, to recommence them as early as the weather will permit us to use the house. A second was discontinued on account of an entire failure in interesting the people sufficiently to get a congregation. It is very hard to interest people who have never known our Church service, and are not a reading people, sufficiently to induce them to take an interest in it. At a third place, where service was commenced in January, prospects are favorable. There, and

the first place mentioned, the congregations have generally filled the houses. A few Church members attending the responses have been good, the services impressive, and an interest in them seemed to increase. At this last place the effort has been an experiment, made in a community generally Congregational, to introduce the Church and its service.

"By the kindness of our Bishop, I have a sufficient supply of Prayer Books, which I take with me. By referring to the page of each part of the service, persons not before acquainted with it are enabled to take part in it, and I have generally succeeded in interesting them to some extent.

"The country around this place is rich ; many of the farmers are in easy circumstances ; some of them abundant and highly intelligent. There is hope of increase in the Church in that quarter. It is a central point at which some eighteen or twenty Church people, and Church favoring, can assemble, and where I can find some six or eight communicants. This number will, I hope, be added to by another opportunity of confirmation. There we have the use of a very neat and pleasant school-house.

"To this place and its circle I propose to devote increased attention, should the people in this county enable me to remain among them, by providing sufficient for my living. Should that not be done, it will be hard for me to resist invitations which I am occasionally receiving to go to other places where my family would have the needful comforts of life, and I be relieved from too much secular care."

Wisconsin.

Mineral Point—Rev. J. P. Phelps.

"SEVERAL have lately been added to the Church by removal, which has given us a moral force that we had expected to be obliged to labor for for a long time. It often surprises me to see how differently the Church is regarded by those without, when it has the countenance and support of three or four influential families who are really religious and have the interest of the Church at

heart, and when, on the other hand, it is struggling on with no such assistance. At the present, the former case seems to be our good fortune.

"*Sunday, January 15.*—Bishop Kemper made a visitation to this parish and confirmed *eight* persons, and addressed them, besides preaching three times, and baptizing one adult, and catechizing the Sunday scholars. The congregations were large and attentive; at night many could find no place, and were forced to go away.

"Since my last report we have secured the use of a church organ, five stops, which adds very much to the interest of the services. Many undoubtedly come for the sake of the music alone at first, when we hope in time to attach them to the entire service. Ours is the only organ here. Our people have, at their own expense, succeeded in reducing the debt of the church to three hundred dollars. It was contracted some six years ago in building the church edifice. The balance of the debt we expect to pay this year; and when this is done we shall have a very good and church-like edifice of brick, with basement, tower and bell, all at the entire cost and expense of the people of this parish.

"Our next object is a parsonage. We have the ground, and if we had six or eight hundred dollars we should soon have all the conveniences for sustaining and carrying on the work of the Church, and could do it without the further assistance of the Domestic Board.

"I must not forget to mention, as an act of great kindness and consideration on the part of my parishioners, that within a few weeks past they have made up an annual subscription for a life policy of insurance on my life, for the benefit of my family. The policy has been obtained, and presented to me.

"The recent sudden death of the Rev. Mr. Gassaway, of St. George's Church, St. Louis, Mo., shows the benefit, and indeed I may say necessity in Missionary stations, where the salary is small, of parishioners insuring the lives of their Missionary, as an act of justice to their families."

Stevens' Point—Rev. Thomas Green.

"On Nov. 13th I commenced my labors in this place, since

which time I have held divine services, and preached twice on each Sunday, with the exception of an absence at Nashotah for the purpose of being admitted to the Order of Priests. This absence included two Sundays.

"We have a handsome frame church, with a bell, organ, and all things necessary for conducting the services of the Church. The edifice can accommodate 180 persons, and is free to all who may desire to worship there; it is also free from debt, and cost \$1,600.

"The services, both morning and evening, are attended by congregations numbering from ninety to one hundred persons; all appear to be interested, and many join in the responses, and I believe value the Prayer Book highly. My Sunday school is a very interesting one, and consists of sixty-eight scholars, and nine teachers. The Catechism and New Testament are the only books used in the school. Of the latter, there are children who recite from one to two hundred verses weekly.

"In addition to my labors at Stevens' Point, I have performed Missionary services at the following places:—at Plover, five miles; at Little Bull Falls, twenty-four miles; and at Warsaw, forty miles from this place. At Warsaw there are a few Episcopalians, who are about to organize a parish, build a church, and endeavor to procure the services of a minister. The prospects of the Church are quite encouraging in the Pinery."

Iowa.

Dubuque—Rev. R. D. Brooke.

"It will be seen on comparing this report with the one made last fall, that the number of communicants has diminished, which has been owing both to removal and withdrawal, and that the congregation and Sunday school have increased very much. Indeed, the Church seems to be externally in a very flourishing condition, but there are many dry, very dry bones bleaching beneath the sun-light of the Gospel, which we fear will prove to them, instead of a savor of life unto life, a savor of death unto death. For three years and a half have we now been laboring in this portion of the Lord's vineyard, planting and watering it accord-

ing to our ability, but the spiritual increase has been very small. God has not seen fit to bless our labors as we desire, that is, in the conversion of souls, and why should we murmur? We are expecting the Bishop here in a few weeks, but we fear none will come forward to renew their baptismal vows.

“One half of our Church debt has been paid, and nearly the other half subscribed. I confidently expected that it would have been entirely cancelled by this, but my expectations have been disappointed. The day that we will be able to say that we owe no man anything cannot, however, be very far distant. Then, I trust, we shall be able to go on and finish the building and put up a lecture-room, which is very much needed.

“If my congregation continues to increase as it has done, and rent and the price of provisions do not advance at the same rate as heretofore, I shall be most happy to say to the Domestic Committee, in my next report, the 1st of October, farewell, and instead of being supported by them in part, will urge my parish to do what is in its power to aid others.”

Missouri.

St. Joseph and Weston—Rev. W. Norman Irish.

“THE services of our Church, prior to my arrival at these places, had been celebrated only about one year, and I found the little handful quite desponding at their past destitution. However, the large congregations at St. Joseph, as well as the enthusiastic manner in which all have thus far participated with us in the worship of God, have inspired not only the members, but your Missionary, with a hope of an increase.

“At St. Joseph, the congregation worship in a building standing upon a Church lot which is owned by the Vestry.

“At Weston, we have rented a commodious and neatly furnished hall, and through the zealous efforts of our ladies a melodeon has been purchased, which will be ready for our use at my next appointment there. I am sorry to say, that although the Church at Weston is in all respects stronger than at St. Joseph, services have not been so well attended as I could desire.

“Your Missionary has also made one visit to Fort Leavenworth,

Nebraska Territory. He was most cordially received, and left an appointment to preach there on the second Sunday after Easter. We have only one male communicant, I believe, at this post, but nearly all the officers are attached to the Church. A portion of their families are either communicants of the same, or they have themselves received her faithful and early teaching.

"The Platte country, which will doubtless, of itself, make both St. Joseph and Weston large and important cities, cannot be surpassed in richness of soil and other advantages for improvement. It offers urgent inducements for a large emigration, and many thriving towns are springing up where three or four years since hardly a settlement was made. These towns, some at least sixty miles distant north and east from St. Joseph, ought to be visited immediately.

"Will any zealous or liberal-minded Churchman donate the Missionary at this place the means to procure a horse, which will cost at least one hundred dollars? He promises, if this be done, to devote at least two weeks every year in making a tour through this new section of country, 'to seek for Christ's sheep that are dispersed abroad.' The advantage of such a trip to the Church, *just at this time*, is incalculable. Denominations of every conceivable name and error are fast filling up these places. Shall not the Church stand an equal chance? Or, at least, shall we not save her own nurtured children from teaching in so many respects different from her own, and erroneous?"

Intelligence.

WE have pleasure in stating that the Rev. Samuel Cooke, Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church, New-York, at the last meeting of the Domestic Committee, was unanimously appointed the preacher at the annual meeting of the Board of Missions, to be held in Hartford, on Tuesday, October 3d, and has accepted the appointment.

Nevada, Marysville, and Stockton, in California, have been made Missionary Stations; and in the list of appointments, it will be seen three Missionaries have been appointed to that important field. Only one of them has, as yet, signified his ac-

ceptance. When shall the much-needed and longed-for laborers be found for Oregon? One of the three Missionaries who have labored there, the Rev. J. A. Woodward, has returned after a period of most faithful labors, and led by providential circumstances to another sphere, has resigned his post. Truly, "*the harvest is great, but the laborers are few.*"

News from Oregon—Reception and Labors of Bishop Scott.

WE extract the following from a letter of Rev. John McCarty, D. D., dated Portland, Oregon, June 23d. It will rejoice the friends of Bishop Scott to know in what estimation he is held, and gives the cheering pledge of his earnest, vigorous, and faithful prosecution of his work. May he be speedily joined by new and faithful helpers in his work! A delightful climate, a noble field, and great and urgent wants, call loudly for recruits in this distant service:—

We like our Missionary Bishop very much, and, with thanks to God, we have given him a cordial welcome. He has entered with great energy and industry on the duties of his office and ministry in this great but hard and trying field. Of the nine Sundays he has been here, he has spent three in this place: the last included our Church Council or Convocation, which was commenced the day before; one he has officiated at Milwaukie; one at Champoege and Butteville; one at Salem, the capital of this territory; one at Olympia, the present capital of Washington Territory, on Puget's Sound; and one at the military post at Heilacoom, and at Nisqually, also on the Sound. He has been up the valley of the Willamet as far as Albany, which is about one hundred miles from this. His journey into Washington Territory, in which I was with him, occupied him from the 22d of May to the 8th of June. The Sunday he was in Olympia, I officiated in the garrison at Heilacoom in the morning, and in the neighboring village in the afternoon; and the following Sunday afternoon in that village, when he was engaged at Nisqually. On this tour he preached week-day evenings at Heilacoom village, at Jackson's, and at Cowlitz Landing, as he has officiated at several places in this territory. It would be difficult for any one in the Atlantic States to appreciate the fatigue, hardship, and discomfort which the Bishop has to undergo in the discharge of the duties of his Missionary Episcopacy on this coast. To-morrow he is to set out on a tour up the Willamet Valley, which he designs to extend into the Umpqua, which will probably employ him three or four weeks. The Rev. Mr. Fackler is to accompany him. The Bishop's exploration of a part of these territories has made him deeply sensible of the urgent need of *more laborers* in this great field committed to his care.

We are now engaged in building our church edifice in this place, which will be finished in about two months.

Baptismal Offering of "Little A."

IN our acknowledgments this month we have a "Baptismal Offering of Little A.," for Domestic Missions, \$10. It is a touching and suggestive incident. An unconscious infant is thus made to show its gratitude to God, and begin its Christian course by a free-will offering to His cause! We could not but ask ourselves, "What manner of child shall this be?" We cannot but hope that the child may live to know of this, its infant offering, and augur well for its future course, from such a beginning on the part of its parents and sponsors. If it be a male child, we sincerely hope he may live to be a faithful minister of Christ, or a devoted Missionary in His service. In any case, may Little A. be long spared and largely blessed, and reap the benefits and blessings of its baptism into Christ, on earth and in heaven.

[THE Church papers will confer a favor, and may aid the cause, by inserting the following appeal:—]

Domestic Missions.

NON-CONTRIBUTING PARISHES.

The number is yet very large, far too large, either for the credit of the Church, or the good cause of our Domestic Missions. With all the increase in our contributions for the current year, we have not yet *one hundred* new recruits in this good service. We have not yet more than *one-third* of all the parishes of our favored Church direct contributors to her authorized agency in leavening our growing population, and "preaching the Gospel to the poor" of our spreading land. Only about six hundred contributing parishes, and nearer *twelve hundred doing nothing*, we will not say, *caring nothing*, for this blessed cause. Where are all the rest? Where are the *nine*, whom God has richly blessed, and the Master has visited with His healing, soothing power? Only think what these twelve hundred parishes might do! If each, small and large together, would give only

ten dollars each, it would give us a clear gain of *twelve thousand dollars*; at twenty dollars each, an increase of *twenty-four thousand dollars*. How many of these parishes will now in the month of September come to our aid? October 1st will tell the story for the year. We are not complaining; we have no heart to dictate, but we would rather for love's sake beseech and plead with our brethren of the clergy and laity to come up to the help of the Church and of the Lord in this great work. There is enough of treasure; where are the warm hearts and ready hands? We wait, and look for a response both prompt and liberal.

Appointments.

REV. A. Bingham to Bristol, Indiana, from July 1st; Rev. M. Hoyt, to Lansing, Iowa, from do.; Rev. Junius M. Willey, to Bath, Maine, from June 16; Rev. W. E. Franklin, to La Porte, Indiana, from July 1st; Rev. M. F. Sorenson, to Mishawaka, Indiana, from do.; Rev. Alonzo J. M. Hudson, to Crawfordsville, Indiana, from June 25; Rev. John Trimble, Jr., to Laurenceburgh, in the same Diocese, from May 14.

Rev. Joseph S. Large, Rev. W. H. Hill, and Rev. E. Y. Hager, have been appointed Missionaries to California from the time of entering on their duties. Rev. Mr. Large has accepted the appointment; Rev. Mr. Hager has declined, on account of the state of his health; the Rev. Mr. Hill has not yet been heard from; Rev. P. Browne Morrison to Two Rivers, Wisconsin, from July 1st; Rev. D. W. Tolfourd to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, from May 17; Rev. George Rottenstein to the German population of San Antonio, and parts adjacent, in Texas, from June 1st.

Resignations.

REV. H. M. Thompson, Maysville, Kentucky, from July 10, 1854; Rev. J. W. Sweet, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, from June 26th; Rev. H. N. Pierce, of Matagorda, Texas, from June 1st.

Acknowledgments.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

THE Treasurer of the Domestic Committee acknowledges the receipt of the following sums from July 15, 1854, to Aug. 15, 1854:—

Vermont.

Arlington—Mrs. Pamela Deming	10 00	
Brandon—St. Thomas', $\frac{1}{2}$	5 00	15 00

Massachusetts.

Greenfield—St. James's, 2d contribution	20 00	
Lowell—St. Ann's	30 00	
Marblehead—St. Michael's, for Oregon	20 00	70 00

Rhode Island.

Middletown—Holy Cross	3 00	
Providence—Grace Ch., a member	5 00	
Wakefield—Ascension	2 50	10 50

Connecticut.

Branford—Trinity Ch.	6 00	
Fair Haven—St. James's	5 00	
New Haven—Trinity Ch.	65 00	
Norwich—Christ Ch.	65 00	
Trinity Church	21 65	
Poquetanock—St. James's Ch.	6 00	
Stamford—St. John's	39 42	
Wallingford—St. Paul's Parish,	10 00	218 07

New-York.

Brooklyn—Grace Ch., (pt. offerings)	1 00	
Cherry Valley—Grace Ch.	6 00	
Flushing—St. George's	101 39	
Newburgh—St. George's	57 82	
New-York—St. Paul's, a memb.,	1 00	
Annunciation, a Lady	2 00	
Sing Sing—"K."	5 00	
Ulster—Trinity Ch.	25 00	
Yonkers—St. John's	55 00	254 21

Western New-York.

Dansville—St. Peter's	8 29	
Fredonia—Trinity Ch.	7 33	
Utica—Trinity Ch.	8 25	
A Lady	10 00	
Waterloo—St. Paul's	9 15	43 02

New-Jersey.

New-Brunswick—Christ Ch.,	28 33	
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Pennsylvania.

Birdsboro—St. Michael's	7 00	
Morlatton—St. Gabriel's	7 00	
Pottstown—Christ Ch.	21 00	
"Little A." baptismal offering,	10 00	
Pottsville—Trinity Ch., for Rock Island	5 00	50 00

North Carolina.

Raleigh—Christ Ch.	51 00	
Warner Co.—"H."	10 00	61 00

South Carolina.

Beaufort—F. M. B., for Oregon and Cal.	9 25	
"A Friend to Missions," for do.	18 75	
Camden—Grace Ch.	32 00	
Charleston—St. Michael's	30 59	
St. John's Island	20 00	
Winyaw—Prince George's	5 00	115 59

Georgia.

"N." for Shakapee, \$75; for St. Anthony's Falls, \$25	100 00	
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Michigan.

Monroe—Trinity Ch.	8 00	
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Missouri.

Church at Jefferson Barracks...	6 00	
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Illinois.

Galena—Grace Ch.	21 00	
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Texas.

Galveston—A Lady	5 00	
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Legacies.

Legacy of Mrs. Charlotte W. Tyler, late of Harrisburgh, Pa., by Samuel Hepburn, Esq., less State tax and expenses, 188 34		
Annual payment on account of legacy of the estate of the late Hanford Smith, of New-ark, N. J., $\frac{1}{2}$	226 66	415 00

Total, July 15, 1854, to Aug. 15, 1854, \$1,420 72

Total, since Oct. 1, 1853.....\$36,327 50